Attorney Docket No. 00048/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Masaru SUDO et al

Serial No. : 09/496,061

: February 21, 2000 Filed

: ENDOSCOPE IMAGE SENSING For

METHOD AND APPARATUS

Art Unit : 2613

: S. S. An Examiner

RESPONSE - 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

DEC 1 1 2003

Technology Center 2600

SIR:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed May 8, 2003, the term for response to which expires on June 8, 2003.

ELECTION:

Applicants hereby elect Species I, Fig. 2, for further prosecution on the merits, without traverse.

The claims readable on the elected species of Fig. 2 are claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 21, 22 and 24.

It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits now proceed with respect to the above election.

If a generic claim is found to be allowable, it is requested that the Examiner consider all of the claims which depend therefrom or which otherwise include the subject matter thereof.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMIL TRANSMISSION TO NO. 1-703-872-9314

TOTAL PAGES: Two (2) I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the

Commissioner for Patents on the date noted below.

Dated: May 30, 2003

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Holtz Esq. Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: May 30, 2003

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